



Construction Ahead!

Paving of center median: full speed ahead

Crews are busy paving the center median between Ford Street and Live Oak Canyon Road for the first phase of work of the I-10 truck-climbing lane project in Redlands and Yucaipa.

Three layers of pavement will be installed -- a lean concrete base, a layer of asphalt and a top layer of concrete. The paving is occurring at night and will be complete this spring. Some noise from truck back-up alarms is expected, so residents near the freeway are advised to close their windows and to be patient during construction.



Once the paving of the center median is finished, work will shift to clearing and excavating the east-bound freeway shoulder during May and June. Paving the shoulder area is scheduled for the summer months and again will create noise at night.

The final step will involve replacing deteriorated slabs of pavement in the current slow lane of the freeway. This work will occur in late summer or fall.

Coming soon: Outer Highway retaining walls

Temporary concrete barriers along Outer Highway 10 marks locations where retaining walls soon will be built south of the freeway. The walls will hold back dirt along sections of the freeway that are higher than the street level.

The concrete walls will feature a ribbed pattern and will replace the metal beam guard rail and exposed slopes in these areas. The completed walls will not exceed the height of the existing metal guard rail, so visibility of businesses along this street will not be affected.

Excavation in the area started in mid-March, and wall construction is set to begin in April and extend through the summer.



Safety Reminder

▲ Freeway lanes are slightly narrower in this construction zone. Be alert, watch for stopped vehicles, allow more time or choose another route.

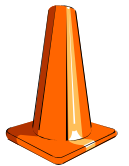
▲ Night work requires closure of lanes. Follow signs and stay alert when driving through this area after dark.

▲ Watch for equipment.

These large vehicles need added time to exit from the median and shoulder areas.

▲ Turn off mobile phones to avoid distractions when driving in this area.

▲ Slow down and remember that traffic fines are doubled in construction zones.



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If you know someone who would like to receive **Construction Ahead** or if you wish to be removed from our mailing list, send your request to cdonahue@sanbag.ca.gov or call 889-8611 x102. If you are receiving this bulletin by mail and would like to receive it electronically, please email or phone your request.

We're listening ...

SANBAG has a new I-10 helpline to allow callers to leave messages about the project. Please call 889-8611 x102; return calls will be made the next business day.



SANBAG seeking proposals for new westbound lane

SANBAG is seeking qualified firms to begin the planning process for a new lane to be added to westbound I-10 from Live Oak Canyon Road in Yucaipa to Ford Street in Redlands.

Firms will be asked to submit statements of qualifications for this project, which would relieve morning traffic congestion.

Like the truck lane and the upcoming widening of I-10 through Redlands, the westbound lane addition would be funded in part by Measure I, the half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements in San Bernardino County.

Statements of qualifications are due by April 22, and SANBAG expects to have the selected firm under contract by July 7.



Work continuing on freeway sound walls

Construction of two sound walls north of the freeway is continuing, with masonry block installation scheduled to start this spring.

One wall will be built adjacent to the north side of the freeway, near Reservoir Road in Redlands. Crews are building this wall in two sections. The bottom section will be a concrete retaining wall to hold back dirt (see photo at right), and the top section will be formed from masonry block.

The other wall, located across the street from homes on Hampton Road in Yucaipa, will be built completely from block.

Both of the walls will measure 16 feet in height. The wall near Reservoir Road will be 16 feet from the base of the freeway.

Block work should take about a month from the start date.



Freeway Service Patrol offers help to 600 during first two months of operation

Help has been on the way -- more than 600 times -- during January and February, the first two months of Freeway Service Patrol operation.

Armada Towing, which is under contract to SANBAG for this service, offered free help to 601 motorists in the freeway construction zone. About 60 percent of the assists occurred during the afternoon shift of the FSP, which runs from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. The balance occurred during the morning shift, which starts at 5 a.m. and ends at 8:30 a.m.

The vast majority -- 93 percent -- of the help has been initiated by the two tow truck drivers observing disabled vehicles. The remaining seven percent of the assists has been the result of CHP dispatching the tow trucks.

The most common type of assistance has been for mechanical problems. The tow drivers, brothers Joshua and Jason Pallas (see photo below) also have changed flat tires, provided gas for drivers who ran out, responded to accidents, cooled down overheated engines and removed debris from the freeway lanes.



In a number of cases, drivers have declined assistance, stating that help already was on the way or that they were just napping on the freeway shoulder. Drivers should note that this spring, the freeway shoulder no longer will be accessible, so sleepy drivers will need to find a new place to rest.